## "GET YOURSELF TESTED"

Free HIV, STD and Hepatitis C testing available, April 21 & 22

Florida HEALTH Martin County

Contact: Renay Rouse | Renay.Rouse@FLHealth.gov

Public Information Officer | 772-631-6008

**Martin County, FL** –The Florida Department of Health in Martin County (DOH-Martin) is providing free HIV, STD and Hepatitis C testing on Thursday, April 21 in Indiantown and Friday, April 22 in Stuart. HIV and Hepatitis C test results will be available in about 15 minutes and no appointment is needed.

2020 surveillance data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show that sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) remain high with significant increases in gonorrhea, syphilis and congenital syphilis since 2016: <u>CDC STD statistics</u>.

If left untreated, STDs can increase risk of giving or getting HIV, long term pelvic/abdominal pain and the inability to get pregnant.

With early diagnosis, individuals can begin appropriate treatment, resulting in better health outcomes. HIV-negative individuals are encouraged to reduce the chance of contracting HIV by using prevention strategies, including the use of condoms.

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) medication is available through DOH-Martin. PrEP is a once-daily pill that can reduce the chance of acquiring HIV in HIV-negative individuals. PrEP should be used in conjunction with other prevention methods like condoms to reduce the chance of infection. According to CDC, taking PrEP daily reduces the chance of getting HIV by more than 90 percent.

## Free HIV/STD & Hepatitis C Testing:

Thursday, April 21 9:00 am – 1:00 pm FL Dept. of Health, Martin County

16401 SW Farm Rd., Indiantown

Friday, April 22 9:00 am – 1:00 pm FL Dept. of Health, Martin County

3441 SE Willoughby Blvd., Stuart

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## **About the Florida Department of Health**

The department, nationally accredited by the <u>Public Health Accreditation Board</u>, works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts Follow us on Twitter at <u>@GoHealthyMartin</u> and on <u>Facebook</u>. For more information about the Florida Department of Health please visit <u>www.MartinCountyHealth.com</u>